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NEWS RELEASE

Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, Jeffrey R. Roehm, Special Agent in Charge of the Washington Field Division of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Willard W. Dunham, Resident Agent in Charge of the Richmond Field Office of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, Nicholson Broughton, Assistant Special Agent in Charge of the Drug Enforcement Administration's Richmond Field Division, Andre Parker, Chief, Richmond Police Department, and Henry Stanley, Chief, Henrico County Division of Police, announce the sentencing yesterday of Frederick Baker, age 30, of Henrico County, Virginia.

Baker pled guilty on June 25, 2002, to possession with intent to distribute 60.9 grams of crack cocaine and possession of a .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol in furtherance of the drug trafficking crime. United States District Judge Richard L. Williams sentenced Baker to 121 months incarceration on the drug charge and 60 months incarceration on the gun charge, to run consecutively.

ATF obtained information that Baker was carrying a gun while involved in crack cocaine trafficking. ATF, working with DEA, learned that on February 20, 2002, Baker, who was wanted on unrelated Henrico County charges, was going to distribute a quantity of crack cocaine in the

City of Richmond. DEA and ATF agents, with the assistance of officers from the Richmond Police Department, arrested Baker as he drove through the City of Richmond before he could consummate the deal. Upon arresting Baker, the agents discovered approximately two ounces of crack cocaine in his pants pocket and a loaded .45 caliber semi-automatic pistol at his feet on the floor board of the vehicle. A subsequent search of a West-End Henrico County residence that Baker used as a stash house resulted in the recovery of digital scales commonly used by drug dealers to weigh their product for distribution, crack cocaine packaging materials, crack cocaine, and numerous rounds of .45 caliber ammunition.

The case was investigated by agents from the DEA and ATF. Officers from the Richmond Police Department assisted in the arrest and Henrico County Police Department's Strike Force Officers assisted in the search of the West-End stash house. Assistant United States Attorney Olivia N. Hawkins prosecuted the case for the United States.